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LETTER DATED 16 DECEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

We remain prepared to engage in a comprehensive review and dialogue with respect to the report of the Secretary-General of 1 December 1994 on "safe areas" (S/1994/1389). We will seek to present both a critical and constructive analysis and proposals to the Security Council and the Secretariat. In order to proceed with this review and dialogue, we all have to gain a better understanding of the future role and perspectives of the Member States contributing to the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and of other relevant organizations that are critical to the effective implementation of the existing as well as potential Security Council resolutions.

For exactly this reason, we welcome the scheduled meeting at The Hague on 19 and 20 December of the various troop commanders, troop contributors, NATO and others as an essential first step in the evaluation process. In view of the far-reaching and, at times, apparently contradictory proposals outlined within the Secretary-General's report, we believe that it is important that both our Government and all members of the Security Council are correctly informed regarding the position and commitments of the relevant troop contributors, NATO and other parties. The Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the responsible members of the Council should not once again be asked to gamble with the safety of the civilian population and the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic on the promise of resolutions and mandates with respect to which there may not be the necessary will to execute. We continue to give full weight to the relevant Security Council resolutions equally. The questions is, do those who originally committed themselves with respect to, and even promoted, such resolutions continue to recognize their responsibilities?

As a consequence, we would suggest that we await the report of the meeting at The Hague (which we understand will be forthcoming within 10 days thereafter) before the Security Council proceeds with further deliberations on the matter. We express our hope that all the troop contributors will be provided with the equal opportunity to participate in the report's preparation, and remain committed to further cooperation.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating the present letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative